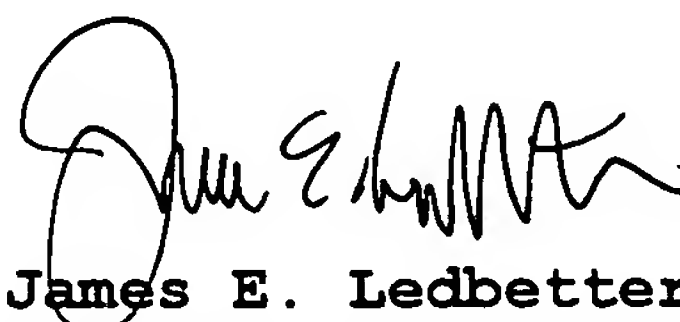


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 1-17 in favor of new claims 18-46.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: September 27, 2006

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L7725.06124

STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.

Suite 850

1615 L Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20036

Telephone: (202) 785-0100

Facsimile: (202) 408-5200